Department of State

DECLASSIFIED

TELEGRAM

863

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

EXDIS

E

PAGE 01 SAIGON 03631 211547Z

53
ACTION SS 77

INFO NSCE 00,CIAE 00,SSO 00,DODE 00,USIE 00,NSAE 00,CCO 00,/070 W

Saigon 3631
8/21/67

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY Joan Lyndsey DATE 10/7/81
PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

R R 211210Z AUG 67
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5020
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 3859
AMEMBASSY VIENTINE 2222
AMCONSUL DANANG 760
CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 3631

LIMDIS

REF: SAIGON 3448 pol 14 Viet S

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

1. [redacted] TOLD EMBOFF IN NHA TRANG AUGUST 20 THAT HE HAD OBTAINED FROM ACQUAINTANCE IN HAU NGHIA LIST OF SIX UPPER HOUSE SLATES SUPPORTED BY GVN. (SLATES INVOLVED ARE NUMBERS 2, 4, 5, 8, 30 AND

PAGE 2 RUMJIR 3631 C O N F I D E N T I A L
32, ACQUAINTANCE TOLD [redacted] LIST IS BEING DISTRIBUTED BY PROVINCE CHIEFS THROUGH DISTRICT CHIEFS TO VILLAGE CHIEFS. [redacted] MAINTAINS THAT RD CADRE IN NHA TRANG HAVE TOLD HIM THEY HAVE ALSO SEEN THIS LIST AND THAT IT IS BEING DISTRIBUTED BY GVN IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE. [redacted] TOLD EMBOFF HE HAD SHOWN LIST TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE TRUONG DINH DZU WHO BECAME QUITE AGITATED AND, [redacted] PROBABLY WILL CONCLUDE THAT THIS IS PART OF NATION-WIDE GVN CAMPAIGN

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

Department of State
DECLASSIFIED
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAIGON 03631 211547Z

TO CONTROL ENTIRE FUTURE UPPER HOUSE.
2. REFTEL REPORTED WIDESPREAD BELIEF THAT GVN HAS "PASSED THE WORD" IT FAVORS SLATES TO WHICH [redacted] REFERRING. b-1 b-c
WE BELIEVE GVN PROBABLY DOES IN FACT FAVOR THESE UPPER HOUSE SLATES ALTHOUGH PRECISE NATURE OF SUPPORT THEY ARE RECEIVING, IF ANY, IS UNCLEAR. WE HAVE ONE SPECIFIC REPORT FROM AN GIANG WHERE PROVINCE CHIEF RECENTLY TOLD EMBASSY PROVINCIAL REPORTER HE HAD RECEIVED "OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS" TO SUPPORT ABOVE SLATES AND OPPOSE MRS LIST HEADED BY NGUYEN VAN TRUONG (NO. 27) AND "DIEMIST" SLATE HEADED BY TRAN VAN LAM (NO. 2).
WE WILL REPORT ANY FURTHER INFORMATION OBTAINED ON THESE ALLEGATIONS.

PAGE 3 RUMJIR 3631 C O N F I D E N T I A L
3. BELIEF IN THE EXISTENCE OF LIST OF GVN FAVORED SLATES NOW APPEARS LIKELY TO BECOME WIDESPREAD. IT MAY BE SEIZED UPON BY CIVILIAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES (AND OTHER UPPER HOUSE SLATES AS WELL) AS FURTHER EVIDENCE OF GVN BAD FAITH AND ATTEMPTS TO RIG ELECTIONS.
4. IF ASKED, WE PLAN FOR THE MOMENT TO TAKE LINE IN PRIVATE DISCUSSIONS WITH JOURNALISTS THAT WHILE LIST OF GVN SPONSORED SLATES MAY EXIST, WE HAVE NO FIRM INDICATION THAT IT DOES NOR DO WE KNOW WHICH SLATES MAY ACTUALLY BE INVOLVED. WE WILL ALSO POINT OUT THAT, WITHIN LIMITS PRESCRIBED BY LAW, THERE I NOTHING IMPROPER ABOUT THIEU/KY ENDORSING UPPER HOUSE CANDIDATES AND THAT THIS INFACT IS VERY NATURAL POLITICAL PHENOMENON.

BUNKER

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED